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ON THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: BENJAMIN et al.
Serial No.: 10/796,943
Filed: March 10, 2004
Entitled: Freeze Dryer

Group Art Unit: 3744
Examiner: n/a
Atty. Dkt.: M04B106

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence and every writing referred to herein as being enclosed is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 14, 2004.
(Date)

Betty Lee
Printed name of person signing this certificate

Betty Lee
Signature of person mailing

Dear Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The Examiner's attention is directed to the documents identified on the attached Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B, "Information Disclosure Statement." A copy of each non-US patent document is enclosed.

Please consider all the listed documents and list them on the cover sheet of any patents to issue from the subject application.

The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application or within three months of the date of entry of the National Phase of an international application or before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(b), no additional fee is due. As a precaution, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 02-2865 any fee required by this submission.

Very truly yours,

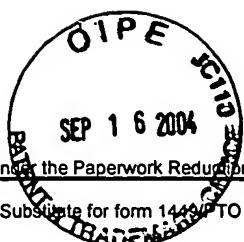
Date: Sept 14, 2004

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Attachments
Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B
Cited References

ILZ:bjl



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Substitute for form 1449 PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1

— of 2

Complete if Known

| | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Application Number | 10/796,943 |
| Filing Date | March 10, 2004 |
| First Named Inventor | DAMEN et al. |
| Art Unit | 3744 |
| Examiner Name | |

Attorney Docket Number M04B106

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| | | Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | | |
| | 4 | EP 0 429 813 A1 | 06-05-1991 | Fedegari | | |
| | 5 | EP 0 773 418 A1 | 05-14-1997 | Hof | | |
| | 6 | JP 63-312574 A | 12-21-1988 | Nippon | | |
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| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

2

of

2

Application Number

10/796,943

Filing Date

March 10, 2004

First Named Inventor

DAMEN et al.

Art Unit

3744

Examiner Name

Attorney Docket Number

M04B106

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T ² |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---|----------------|
| | 7 | R. BATTENBERG, W. ALEXANDER; Abstract of EP 0 773 418 entitled Door for Autoclaves, Freeze Drying Plants, Autoclavable Freeze Drying Plants, etc.; dated May 14, 1997; | |
| | | WPI abstract accession no. 1997-261402/24 | |
| | 8 | J. FUTAGAWA; Abstract of JP 63-312574 entitled Gate Valve Device of Vacuum Device, dated December 21, 1988; Patent Abstracts of Japan | |
| | 9 | United Kingdom Patent Office Search Report Application No. GB0407078.5; Date of search: August 17, 2004 | |
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